

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An injectable anesthetic composition consisting essentially of ~~comprising~~:

a microemulsion consisting of ~~comprising~~ a mixture of 2,6-diisopropylphenol, polyethylene glycol 660 hydroxystearate, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol polyethyleneglycol ether, and an aqueous medium comprising a tonicity adjustment agent in an amount sufficient to obtain an isotonic condition corresponding to blood plasma, wherein the 2,6-diisopropylphenol is present in an amount of about 1 to 2% by weight of the composition, the polyethylene glycol 660 hydroxystearate is present in an amount of about 5 to 10% by weight of the composition, and wherein the tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol polyethyleneglycol ether is present in an amount of about 10 to 25% by weight of the composition;

a surfactant ~~selected from the group~~ consisting of a bile salt and salts, lecithin, wherein the surfactant is present in an amount of about 0.1 to 0.5% by weight of the composition; and mixtures thereof, and

a member selected from the group consisting of liquid excipients, pH regulators, thickening agents, absorbents, light stabilizers, crystallization inhibitors, complexing agents, antioxidants, antiseptics, and mixtures thereof;

wherein the composition exhibits a transmittance at 660 nm of greater than about 90%.

Claims 2-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): The composition of claim [[5]] 1 wherein the bile salt is a member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable salts of cholic acid, deoxycholic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid, lithocholic acid, ursocholic acid, ursodeoxycholic acid, isoursodeoxycholic acid, lagodeoxycholic acid, glycocholic acid, taurocholic acid, glycodeoxycholic acid, glycochenodeoxycholic acid, dehydrocholic acid, hyocholic acid, hyodeoxycholic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claims 8-13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (previously presented): The composition of claim 1 wherein the tonicity adjustment agent is a member selected from the group consisting of trehalose, glucose, fructose, glycerol,

sorbitol, mannitol, sucrose, xylitol, sodium chloride, and mixtures thereof.

Claims 15-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 wherein the ~~composition comprises a~~ liquid excipient is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of ethanol, propylene glycol, glycerol, triethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 wherein the ~~composition comprises a~~ pH regulator is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of citric acid, acetate, phosphoric acid, ascorbic acid, gluconic acid, succinic acid, tartaric acid, lactic acid, and salts thereof, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 wherein the ~~composition comprises a~~ thickening agent is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of methylcellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 wherein the ~~composition comprises a~~ complexing agent is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of EDTA and salts thereof, phosphate, nitrate, acetate, citrate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 wherein the ~~composition comprises an~~ antioxidant is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, sulfate compounds, L-cysteine, thiodipropionic acid, thiolactic acid, monothioglycerol, propyl galate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 wherein the ~~composition comprises an~~ antiseptic is present and is a member selected from the group consisting of methyl *p*-oxybenzoate, propyl *p*-oxybenzoate, PHB ester, chlorobutanol, benzyl alcohol, butanol, butane-1,3-diol, chlorohexidin salts, benzoic acid and its salts, sorbic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claims 25-60 (canceled)